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The Good 5¢ Cigar

THE UNIVERSITY OF RHODE ISLAND STUDENT NEWSPAPER SINCE 1971

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Issue 48

'Just what this country needs'

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Wednesday

January 25, 2012

University of Rhode Island Multicultural Center to celebrate teachings of Martin Luther King Jr.

BY KIMBERLY DELANDE
News Reporter

Multicultural Center of The University of Rhode Island will begin its 24th annual Martin Luther King Jr. Week on Monday, January 30. The events scheduled in the week will aim to celebrate the messages and ideals of Martin Luther King Jr., and to help the community understand the importance of community service. The message of this year's MLK Jr. Week is "Creating the beloved community on campus and beyond," which intends to illustrate the significance of engaging with your community.

"The theme of Martin Luther King Jr. Week changes every year," said Melvin Wade, director of the Multicultural Center. "This year's theme highlights Dr. King's mission of bringing a society in which the American dream can be fulfilled. That's the underlying message which we hope to bring about during the events."

Many of the events in MLK Jr. Week have to do with nonviolence, social justice, leadership,

and meditation. According to Wade, King was strongly influenced by Eastern meditation and Gandhi. Meditation was an important aspect to include in the events he said.

"So much of Dr. King's message on becoming a better person is to control the inner mind," Wade said. "He saw [meditation] as a way to focus the mind and strengthen his ideals about non-violence. It is also a way to control our anger and fears so you do not need to resort to violence."

The keynote speaker of MLK Jr. Week is Kazu Hagu, leader of the Occupy Oakland movement. Hagu has been involved in many social justice programs, including Communities United for Restorative Youth Justice and the Peace Development Fund in Oakland. He is on the board of directors for both of these organizations, which work to create safer communities in Oakland. Hagu's background in social justice led him to be chosen to speak at MLK Jr. Week at URI.

"One of the reasons we

brought Kazu Hagu to speak was so students would have the opportunity to speak to somebody who has been a leader of the Occupy movement," Wade said. "Dr. King's messages on eradicating [the] poverty link between the ideals of the occupy protestors, who are aiming to draw attention to the increasing gap between the 1 percent and the 99 percent."

The last day of MLK Jr. Week will feature a Day of Service, in which students and community members will have the opportunity to participate in community service events on and off campus. The "Day of Service" is a relatively new addition to MLK Jr. Week, which was first implemented last year.

"This year is the second year we're hosting a Day of Service," Wade said. "Last year, we decided to add Saturday to the MLK Jr. Week schedule, and it opened up more opportunities for people to participate in community service."

Representatives from the

Multicultural Center student organizations and Greek letter communities aided to last year's "Day of Service" events. Steve Simo, Director of Greek Affairs, helped direct the events, assuring the day went smoothly. He also assisted in helping two middle schools partake in the event. Students from the Segway Institute in Centrals Falls and the Urban Collaborative Accelerated Program also participated in the Day of Service, which, according to Wade, made the event all the more successful.

"The Day of Service was a big event for URI and for the MCC," Wade said. "It was a way to connect the current expectations and priorities of students to Dr. King's emphasis on community service."

According to Wade, the sponsors for MLK Jr. Week, the Office of Greek Affairs, the Center for Nonviolence and Peace Studies, the Student Nonviolent Involvement

Continued on page 2

Students and faculty share opinion on URI funding

BY HILLARY BRADY
Editor-in-Chief

University of Rhode Island students, faculty, staff and alumni got the chance to share their thoughts and frustrations about lack of state funding at the Special House Commission to Study Public Higher Education Affordability and Accessibility in Rhode Island's public forum last night.

A packed Alumni Center saw Student Senators, faculty and community members eager to give personal testimonies to the commission during the nearly two hour long session.

The commission, which was established last year, focuses on the factors that "contribute to affordability and accessibility," in higher education Chairman of the Commission Rep. Frank Ferri said. The group of state representatives is working to conduct a "comprehensive study," of college access and costs, in addition to considering the "best practices" of other states and institutions and making suggestions for furthering Rhode Island's funding efforts.

The theme of the evening, as Ferri noted at the forum's conclusion, was funding: how it impacts the university from a department down to personal level.

"We're doing more with less," Department of Psychology Chair and professor Patricia Morokoff said, noting that though the psychology program has added about 100 new students in the past three years, it has lost several faculty members. "I think that is a common theme across campus."

Dean of the College of Nursing Dayle H. Joseph noted a similar trend in the department she oversees, saying that the nursing program faculty are "tired and need more help" to accommodate the 183 freshman students accepted this year—an all-time department high.

"We are doing clinical practice in things like closets," she

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Campus-wide construction continues, other renovations near completion

BY GUS CANTWELL
News Reporter

The University of Rhode Island's construction projects are not slowing down across campus, with new buildings being built and old ones being renovated.

The campus' largest project, the \$70 million pharmacy building, is nearing completion. Vice President of Administration and Finance Robert Weygand said the official ribbon cutting is set for May 4 at 11 a.m.

"It's actually bigger than the CBLS," he said, referring to the nearby Center for Biotechnology and Life Sciences Center. The new building will replace Fogarty Hall, and Weygand said the University is already research-



Teresa Kelly | Cigar

Construction of the new pharmacy building continues.

ing possible new uses for the building.

Another ongoing project,

the new \$43 million Hillside Dormitory, is expected to be ready for the fall semester. The

building's construction was delayed by over two months due to purchasing issues.

"The dorm is probably our biggest struggle," Weygand admitted.

He said that the University also struggled to obtain the funds to construct the administration and research space on the fourth floor of CBLS. The \$5 million project is currently nearing completion.

"They didn't do the fundraising necessary," Weygand said. "The dean at the time was supposed to get funds, and he didn't."

Additionally, \$7 million is committed to miscellaneous projects including the renovation of Taft Hall. The floor of the Mackal Field house was

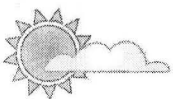
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Today's forecast
41 °F

Partly Sunny



Nickel Brief:

Learn about URI's Winter Wellness Series in tomorrow's issue of the Cigar.

Get up to date with URI women's hockey.

See page 8.

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MLK

From page 1

Committee, and the Office of the Chaplans, were integral in making the week's events a success.

"Last year's events couldn't have gone so well without their help," Wade said. "Their involvement was critical. I'm looking forward to this year being successful as well."

Patriots

From page 4

defenses.

All year long the Patriots' defense has come up strong when it mattered most. They did it last weekend against Baltimore when rookie cornerback Sterling Moore made two great pass breakups on the final drive of the game. The Ravens were forced to try and tie the game with a field goal, and

Martin Luther King Jr. Week begins Monday, January 30 and ends on Saturday, February 4. The events are free, and students and community members are invited to attend. All students who are interested in registering for the "Day of Service" are encouraged to register for the event by emailing Mailee Ku at maileekue@uri.edu.

Billy Cundiff somehow missed the 32-yard kick.

If this defense is able to slow down the Giants run game and not allow Eli Manning to throw touchdowns in the red zone two things should happen: the Patriots should win their fourth Superbowl in 11 seasons and every sports reporter out there should praise Belichick for having his defense do exactly what he needed them to do.

Construction

From page 1

recently renovated as well, though Weygand explained it was not a planned expense.

"Ten to 12 years ago, they put down a liquid [rubber] system," he explained. "Recently, it started going back from a solid to a liquid."

The entire floor was subsequently removed and replaced with a solid material.

Weygand said there have not been any significant construction delays recently; the work is progressing as scheduled.

"The good weather has been beneficial to us, except for the recent snow," he explained.

New projects are also on the horizon. The former Roger Williams Dining Center, located directly across from the Hope Dining Hall, is set to be

gutted and renovated into a Student Wellness Center. Projected to be finished by January of 2013, the building will include areas for free weights, cardio exercises and yoga. Recreational nutrition and stress management courses will also be offered.

"We want to make it as big and open as possible," Weygand said. "It will be complementary to Mackal [Field House]."

The other large project set to begin is the construction of a new \$65 million chemistry building. Which will begin when the Hillside Dormitory is almost finished, Weygand said.

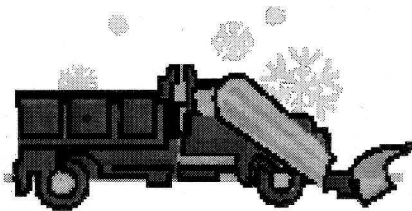
Weygand said he would like to see continued progress regarding the renovation of the existing dormitories as well. He explained the next dorms to be renovated will be in the Roger Williams Complex, which will include Fayerweather, Gorham, Dorr

and Aldrich, among others.

Though some have questioned the University's decision to put over \$200 million into construction during a tough economy, Weygand said it is a good time to build.

"People said the same thing when Eddy and Wiley [Halls] were built," he said, explaining that prices are much better when the economy is struggling. He also stressed that the Pharmacy and Chemistry buildings are being funded by the state, meaning students are not paying for them.

Weygand also described the University's recent construction history, pointing out that URI has done one large project each year for seven years, with an average of \$55 million being spent each year. Upon the completion of these projects, Weygand hopes to do more maintenance and renovation work to the existing buildings on campus instead of building another new one.



IMPORTANT PARKING INFORMATION IN PREPARATION FOR THE WINTER MONTHS AND SNOW REMOVAL

- All parking rules and regulations continue to be in effect 24/7 throughout the year.
- Park in a lot designated by your parking permit between two white lines.
- There is no overnight parking allowed on Flagg Road west of Heathman Road and North of Upper College Road.
- There is no student parking near the residence halls.
- Vehicles parked illegally, thereby impeding snow removal, are subject to being towed at the owner's expense without warning.
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- If your vehicle will be left on campus during the semester break, please park your vehicle in the back of the Flagg Road General Resident Lot.
- After a snowstorm, be sure to shovel out your vehicle after the plows go through the lots. If the piles are not removed from around your car they will freeze and your car may become iced in.
- A shovel and ice scraper are important things to have in your trunk. If you do not have a shovel, the Parking Services office loans shovels from their office in exchange for your student ID.
- Students with current parking permits are eligible for the Motorist Assist program. Please contact our office at 874-9281 (or after normal office hours 874-2121) if your battery needs a jumpstart or if you lock your keys in your car.

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Funding

From page 1

said, saying that White Hall also does not meet recent fire code changes. "We need a new building."

For those attending the university, the struggle for funding also has a major impact, which faculty and students alike shared with the commission.

Chair of Communication Studies and Co-Chair of the Equity Council Lynn Derbyshire, helped "put a face" to the issue of affordable education: three students who she sees for academic advising have been working, amidst financial difficulties, toward their degrees since 1996, 1998 and 2000, respectively.

"They've worked hard, perhaps harder at paying for their credits than the courses that they actually took," Derbyshire said.

Student Senate President David Coates also addressed the commission, sharing that for many of the students he serves, who may be working part time jobs while taking a packed course load, "struggle over decisions like buying books or eating."

"Our reality is that in 2010, 73 percent of our graduates had an average of \$22,750 in debt and they walk away from the university with no guarantee of employment," Coates said.

Junior Brittany Dobrzynski, a Student Senate representative for the College of Environment of Life Sciences, shared that she has also seen the "financial burden" of college tuition on URI stu-

dents—noting the "overwhelming support from the student population" for a stop in tuition hikes in the senate's petition from last semester.

Professors and alumni shared the lucrative business resources available at the university, if the appropriate funding were available from the state. This connection, between university research and state economic development, is one that President David M. Dooley has noted since the beginning of his tenure at the university—writing in an opinion piece for the Providence Journal in March 2010 that URI "must take on an expanded and central role in the renewal of the Rhode Island economy."

President of the URI Alumni Association Joseph M. Confessore, a 1996 graduate, said of the approximately 50,000 URI alumni living in the state, around 13,000 own businesses in the state.

"The university continues to deliver a high quality education while keeping costs down," Confessore said. "We can clearly see what investment comes out of the university."

Department of Computer Science and Statistics Chair Joan Peckham noted that a strong research university is essential for "the health of [the] state," as employers look for this type of education when hiring.

"The best investment the state can make is to support partnerships among the educational institutions and industry," she

said.

Many faculty members also shared the successes of various departments of the university that have been able to reach out to the community and to the students despite the underlying theme of lack of funding—an issue the commission will further discuss at its final forum on Feb. 15, at 6:30 p.m., at the Community College of Rhode Island Newport Campus. Ferri said a large crowd is expected and members of the URI community should come share their thoughts.

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Rhody
SPORTS

The Bottom Line: Hip! Hip! Jorge!

BY MIKE ABELSON
Sports Staff Reporter

The world of baseball bid farewell to one of the classiest men to ever play the game.

Jorge Posada, catcher for the New York Yankees for 17 years, retired this week and I would like to take my column space to get a little nostalgic about the 90s and the Yankees' glory years.

Oh, I should mention that I have grown up in a Red Sox house and still would have to be paid copious amounts of money to even wear a Yankees t-shirt.

Why do I look back at Posada so fondly? It's because he was one of the last tethers to my childhood when every Boston Red Sox and Yankee player was part-titan and part-god.

Growing up in suburban Boston in the 90s, I had to deal with a constant stream of failure by the Red Sox and success by the Yankees. World Series wins in 1998, 1999 and 2000 turned the Yankees into an "Evil Empire" and put them on a special level in terms of the hate they received in Boston. Even then there were Yankees you hated and Yankees you could stomach.

Bernie Williams, Paul O'Neill, Tino Martinez and Chili Davis were Yankees you could stomach.

Derek Jeter, Scott Brosius,

Mariano Rivera, Andy Pettitte, and Alfonso Soriano were the ones you hated.

Posada was the one Yankee you kind of liked. With Jason Varitek playing catcher for the Red Sox there was almost a sense that the two would be connected for a long time, which turned out to be true as both played well into their late 30s and built up Hall of Fame resumes.

Posada always played the game with elegance and class. Yes, he was caught up in the fights the two teams had in the early 2000s. But who didn't? He was one of the top catchers in the league for over a decade and the numbers are eye-popping.

Posada is one of only five catchers in MLB history to amass 1,500 hits, 350 doubles, 275 home runs and 1,000 runs batted in. He was part of four World Series championship teams, was voted to the all-star team five times, including four straight years (2000-2003) and won the Silver Slugger award five times.

Off the field he has done extensive charity work and is known for his "This is Sportscenter" ESPN advertisements, which have gained a cult following.

With Posada retiring, the tethers of my youth are almost completely gone. Varitek unofficially retired this year and Jeter is reaching

the twilight of his career. Even as the rosters turn over, the players retire and move on to coaching or endeavors after baseball, I'll always be able to look back on the American League of my grade school days and think fondly about the great players I grew up seeing.

I'll miss watching Jorge Rafael Posada Villeta play catcher for the Yankees with daft skill.

I just won't miss him winning those four championship rings.



Not so average Joe: New England defense proves itself against Baltimore

BY JOE HOLLENBECK
Sports Editor

It is something I had been saying to my friends all season long. I told them not to count out the New England Patriots's defense when it mattered most. There has been so much media bashing against the Patriots 31st rated defense, something that New England fans had not been used to in a while.

It is easy to argue that a large part of the Patriots success at the turn of the century rested on the shoulders of a smart and strong defense led by veterans Tedy Bruschi, Richard Seymour and Mike Vrabel. Tom Brady was able to win three super bowls without much of an offensive threat.

But in 2007 when Brady was finally given some strong offensive weapons, the team was not able to create any success with a young, inexperienced defense and a quick strike offense. The 2007 team went 18-0 because no other team was able to get pressure on Brady or figure out a scheme that would shut down Brady's big receiver Randy Moss. The New York Giants handed the Pats their first loss that season and spoiled a potential 19-0 season.

But let's not talk about that...

The Giants were able to do that and exposed the Patriots as a strong offensive team without much defense, because not much was needed that season.

After a few failed attempts at signing big name defensive players like Leigh Bodden, Adalius Thomas and countless others, Patriots head coach Bill Belichick decided to go young and start drafting some play-makers.

Three years later the Patriots stand on the brink of glory with a young defense that has been criticized all season long after giving up the second most yards-per-game average.

No one decided to talk about the fact that the Patriots were ranked third in the NFL this season in takeaways, with 34. No one thought it was a big deal that the Pats were ranked 15th in the league in points given up with 21.4 per game.

So now the challenge is to finally prove to everyone that this defense was in fact one of the best in the league. With a Superbowl win, people might finally be able to realize that on paper statistics aren't always the best way to rank a team's

Continued on page 3

Women's hockey wins two, extends streak to six

BY JONATHAN SHIDELER
Sports Staff Reporter

The University of Rhode Island women's hockey team traveled up to the University of Vermont this past weekend for a two game series. The Rams went on to win both games and improve their winning streak to six.

"The team is really coming into their own. They're playing well on both sides, just as we knew they would. They're really stepping it up and they're very focused," assistant coach Butch Soltys said.

The weekend started off with a 6-1 victory Saturday night. The Rams gave themselves a two-goal advantage early on. The first goal came off the stick of freshman Sidney Collins at the 12:44 mark, with sophomore Amanda Taylor and senior

captain Johanna Leskinen assisting on the play. Ten minutes later sophomore Lauren Lanoie scored the team's second goal off an assist by senior Kayla Robidoux.

During the second period the Rams added one more to their lead thanks to freshman Cassandra Catlow. She scored the team's next goal at the 9:23 mark, with seniors Meghan Birnie and Robidoux assisting on the play.

At the 9:14 mark Birnie put one in the back of the net with help of junior teammates Lauren Hillberg and Robidoux.

The Ram's sixth and final goal of the game came courtesy of a power play at the 6:58 mark. Leskinen led freshman Kristie Kennedy with a pass she hammered in to wrap up the game for the Rams.

On Sunday the team continued to dominate on the ice.

Robidoux rattled in a power play goal 9:42 into the game off an assist by Leskinen. Vermont would respond 20 seconds later to tie the game. Robidoux then returned the favor with a pass to Leskinen another 20 seconds later to give the Rams a 2-1 lead. Leskinen was not finished yet, she scored a power play goal at the 5:47 mark her 16th of the season. Robidoux and Birnie helped with the assist once again.

The second period was another strong one. The Rams scored three more goals. Birnie started it off with a goal in the opening five minutes of the period off assists from Catlow and Lanoie. Lanoie then scored a goal of her own at the 5:06 mark, while Catlow scored in the final minute of the period

thanks to passes from Lanoie and Birnie.

Lanoie added her second goal of the game and 12th of the season on a power play at the ten minute mark to wrap up the weekend with a 7-2 victory.

The Rams have now won six consecutive games against very high ranked and competitive opponents. The Rams have been doing this on both sides of the puck out scoring their opponents 28-8 during this stretch.

Leading the way the past six games in net has been sophomore goalie Kayla DiLorenzo. Through this latest stretch of six games she has a save percentage of 94 percent, stopping just over 100 shots.

"She [DiLorenzo] is a huge part of us playing well when you have a goaltender as good as her it makes every-

thing easier," Soltys said. "She's stole a couple games for us this year, she can really hold her own."

The Rams are playing at a high level at the right time, the third set of America Collegiate Hockey Association rankings come out January 27th and after sweeping Northeastern University in their latest matchup the team is expected to move up from their current position at number five.

